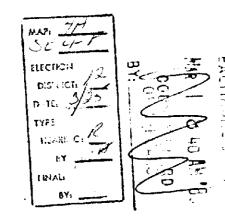
PETITION FOR ZONING RE-CLASSIFICATION & Redistricting SPECIALOXEXCEPRIONOMNDYOROWANIANCE

TO THE COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY: The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition (1) that the zoning status of the herein described property be re-classified, pursuant to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, from ## D.R. 5.5 zone to an (A) BR-CNS or (B) ML-IM zone, for the reasons given in the attached statement; and 2000 periods appropriate content to the reasons given in the attached statement; and 2000 periods are periods and appropriate content to the reasons given in the attached statement; and 2000 periods are periods and appropriate content to the reasons given in the attached statement; and 2000 periods are periods and appropriate content to the reasons given in the attached statement; and 2000 periods are periods and appropriate content to the reasons given in the attached statement; and 2000 periods are periods are periods and appropriate content to the attached statement; and 2000 periods are periods are periods are periods and a period of the periods are periods are periods and a period of the periods are periods. said Kaning charamb Zaning Begolations cof x Bultimare County to a section bear in a company and control of the control of the

and a fight law the areas consequence of the attraction of the consequence of the consequ the Zening Lawcand Zaning Regulations of Baltimore County:



Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by The Baltimore County Code.

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Re-classification. Special Exception and Specia County.

Legal Owner (X): Contract Purchaser: Mt. Clare Properties (Md.), Inc. (Type or Print Name) Signature JIR, HICKMAN 707 E. Main St. (Suite 350) Richmond, VA 23219 City and State Attorney for Petitioner: Richard C. Keene

Signature Suite 2204 - 100 N. Charles St.

Attorney's Telephone No.: (301) 237-3121

Real Estate and Improvement Co. of (Type or Print Name) Baltimore City G. C. Totty, Director-Real Estate and (Type or Print Name) Industrial Development G.C.TOTH 19th Floor - One Charles Center Baltimore, MD 21201 237-3355 City and State Name, address and phone number of legal owner, con-22nd Floor - One Charles Center tract purchaser or representative to be contacted
David L. Lancaster, or William P. Coffing, Jr.

Name 707 E. Main Street

Phone No.

Richmond, VA

BABC-Form 1

Peter Max Zimmerman Deputy People's Counsel

RE: PETITION FOR RECLASSIFICATION FROM D.R. 5.5 to B.R.-CNS and

Peninsula Expressway, 12th District

OF BALTIMORE CITY, Petitioner

To the Honorable, Members of Said Board:

SE Corner Merritt B!vd. and

M.L.-IM ZONES

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 14th day of July, 1983, a copy of the foregoing Order was mailed to Richard C. Keene, Esquire, 22nd Floor, One Charles Center, Baltimore, MD 21201, Attorney for Petitioner; J. R. Hickman, Mt. Clare Properties (Md.), Inc., 707 E. Main Street, Suite 350, Richmond, VA 23219, Contract Purchaser; and David L. Lancaster or William P. Coffing, Jr., 707 E. Main Street, Richmond, VA 23219, who requested notification.

REAL ESTATE & IMPROVEMENT CO. : Case No. R-84-1 (Item 1, Cycle V)

:::::::

ORDER TO ENTER APPLARANCE

Pursuant to the authority contained in Section 524.1 of the Baltimore County

John W. Hessian, III

Rm. 223, Court House

Towson, Maryland 21204

People's Counse! for baltimore County

Charter. I hereby enter my appearance in this proceeding. You are requested to notify

me of any hearing date or dates which may be now or hereafter designated therefor,

and of the passage of any preliminary or final Order in connection therewith.

John W. Hessian, III

. BEFORE THE COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS

OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

BALTIMORE COUNTY

ZONING PLANS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE



PETITION AND SITE PLAN

EVALUATION COMMENTS

BALTIMORE COUNTY ZONING PLANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 2, 1983

COUNTY OFFICE BLDG. 111 W. Chesapeake Ave. Towson, Maryland 2120

Nichelas B. Commodar

 Θ . J

22nd Floor One Charles Center Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Richard C. Keene, Esquire

MEMBERS Bureau of Engineering

Department of Traffic Engineering State Roads Commission Bureau of Fire Prevention Health Department Project Planning Building Department

Zoning Administration

Industrial

RE: Item No. 1 - Cycle No. V Petitioner - Real Estate and Improvement Co. of Baltimore City Reclassification & Redistricting Petitions

Dear Mr. Keene:

This reclassification/redistricting petition has been timely filed with the Board of Appeals for a public hearing within the April-October reclassification cycle (Cycle V). It has been reviewed by the zoning office as to form and content and has also been reviewed by the Zoning Plans Advisory Committee. The review and enclosed comments from the Committee are intended to provide you and the Board of Appeals with an insight as to possible conflicts or problems Appeals with an insight as to possible conflicts or problems that could arise from the requested reclassification or uses and improvements that may be specified as part of the request. They are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested.

If it has been suggested that the petition forms, descriptions, briefs, and/or the site plans be amended so as to reflect better compliance with the zoning regulations and/or commenting agencies' standards and policies, you are requested to review these comments, make your own judgement as to their accuracy and submit the necessary amendments to this office before Tuesday, May 31, 1983. In the event that any requested amendments are not received prior to this date, the petition will be advertised as originally submitted.

The subjects of this petition consist of two parcels of land currently zoned D.R. 5.5 and proposed to be reclassified to B.R.-C.N.S. or in the alternative M.L.-I.M. Parcel #1, consisting of 12.875 acres, is located at the southeast corner of Merritt Boulevard and Peninsula Expressway, while parcel #2, consisting of .104 acre, is located on the south side of Peninsula Expressway east of the first parcel. Both parcels are vacant and were zoned M.L.-I.M. prior to the adoption of the 1980 comprehensive zoning maps.

Item No. 1 - Cycle No. V Petitioner - Real Estate & Improvement Co. of Baltimore City Reclassification & Redistricting Petitions

As indicated in my conversation with your engineer, Mr. Dick Smith, the ninth call in the description and on the plat indicates the wrong distance, while neither the title of this description nor the submitted site plan indicates the requested M.L.-I.M. zoning. Revisions to the descriptions and site plans should be made, and the petition forms should be amended to reflect the redistricting request.

In view of the fact that the submitted site plan does not indicate a proposed development, the enclosed comments from this Committee are general in nature. If the requested reclassification is granted, more detailed comments from County agencies and the Committee (if a hearing is required) will be written when a proposed development is indicated.

If you have any questions concerning the enclosed comments, please feel free to contact me at 494-3391. Notice of the specific hearing date which will be between September 1 and December 31, 1983, will be forwarded to you in the future.

> feets Demmoder NICHOLÁS B. COMMODARI Zoning Plans Advisory Committee

NBC:bsc

Enclosures

cc: David L. Lancaster 707 E. Main Street Richmond, Virginia 23219 Kidde Consultants, Inc. 1020 Cromwell Bridge Road Baltimore, Maryland 21204 BALTIMORE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204

Harry J. Pistel, P. E. Director

March 25, 1983

Mr. William T. Hackett, Chairman Board of Appeals Court House Towson, Maryland 21204

> Re: Item #1 Zoning Cycle V (Apr.-Oct. 1983) Property Owner: Real Estate and Improvement Company of Baltimore City S/E cor. Merritt Blvd. and Peninsula Expressway Existing Zoning: D.R. 5.5 Proposed Zoning: Parcel "1" - B.R.-CNS Parcel "2" - M.L.-IM Acres: Parcel "1" - 12.875 Parcel "2" - 0.104 District: 12th

Dear Mr. Hackett:

The following comments are furnished in regard to the plat submitted to this office for review by the Zoning Advisory Committee in connection with the subject

Highways:

Merritt Boulevard and Peninsula Expressway are existing County roads improved as indicated. No further highway improvements are proposed at this time. The entrance locations are subject to approval by the Department of Traffic

Engineering, and shall be constructed in accordance with Baltimore County Standards and Specifications.

Storm Drains:

In accordance with the drainage policy, the Petitioner is responsible for the total actual cost of drainage facilities required to carry the storm water run-off through the property to be developed to a suitable outfall.

Open stream drainage requires a drainage reservation or easement of sufficient width to cover the flood plain of a 100-year design storm. However, a minimum width of 50 feet is required.

The property to be developed is located adjacent to tidewaters of Bull Neck Creek. The Petitioner is advised that the proper sections of the Baltimore County Building Code must be followed whereby elevation limitations are placed on the lowest floor including basements of residential and commercial development.

Item #1 Zoning Cycle V (Apr.-Oct. 1983) Property Owner: Real Estates and Improvement Company of Baltimore City March 25, 1983

Water and Sanitary Sewer:

There is an 8-inch public water main in Merritt Boulevard, and public 8-inch water main and 12-inch sanitary sewerage in Stansbury Road.

RAM:EAM:FWR:ss

E-SW & F-SE Key Sheets 14-16 SE 20-22 Pos. Sheets SE 4 E & F Topo 103 Tax Map

BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC ENGINEERING TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204

STEPHEN E. COLLINS DIRECTOR

April 25, 1983

Mr. William Hackett Chairman, Board of Appeals Office of Law, Courthouse Towson, Maryland 21204

> Cycle V -Meeting of March 15, 1983

Property Owner: Real Estate and Improvement Co. of Balto. City

SE/Cor. Merritt Blvd. and Peninsula Expressway

Existing Zoning: D.R. 5.5

Proposed Zoning: Parcel "1" - B.R.-CNS or M.L.-IM Parcel "2" - B.R.-CNS or M.L.-IM

Parcel "1" - 12.875 Parcel "2" - 0.104 Acres:

District: Dear Mr. Hackett:

The existing D.R. 5.5 zoning can be expected to generate approximately 700 trips per day and the proposed B.R.-CNS zoning can be expected to generate approximately 6400 trips per day. If this site is zoned M.L.-IM the site can be expected to generate approximately 1300 trips per day.

This site has access problems and any change that increases the volume of traffic or size of vehicles using this site can add to the problems.

Traffic Engineer Assoc. II

MSF/ccm

ZONING: Petition for Reclassi corner of Merritt Boulevard and Penincula Expressway and Parcel 2—Southwest side of Penincula Expressway, 2400 ft. Southeast of Merritt Boulevard.

DATE = TIME: Wednesday, September 7, 1983 at 10:00 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING: Room 218
Courthouse, Towson, Maryland.

The County Board of Appeals for Baltimore County, by suthority of the Baltimore County Charter will hold a public hearing: Present Zoning: D.R. 5.5 (Parcela 1 and 2) Proposed Zoning: B.R.-C.N.S. or M.L.-l.M. (Parcels 1 and 2)
All that parcel of land in the Twelfth District of Baltimore.

Beginning at the southeast corner of Merritt Boulevard and Peninsula Expressway and running thence binding on the southwest side of said Peninsula Expressway, two courses; (1) 8 59° 30′ 35″ E 2090.97 feet and (2) southeasterly, by a curve to the right with a radius of 1045.92 feet, the are distance of 79.75 feet, thence binding on the easterly and southwesterly outlines of the land owned by The Real Estate and Improvement outlines of the land owned by The Real Estate and Improvement Company of Battimore City, five courses: (3) S 03° 49° 19° E 138 26 feet, (4) S 25° 22′ 41° W 34.40 feet, (5) N 64° 42′ 00° W 1466.31 feet, (6) N 25° 22′ 00° E 15.00 feet and (7) N 64° 42′ 00° W 846.26 feet to the southeast side of said Merritt Boulevard, thence binding thereon, three courses: (8) N 31° 53′ 11° E 142.64 feet, (9) N 41° 10′ 00° E 149.50 feet and (10) N 40° 05′ 00° E 49.99 feet to the place of beginning.

Containing 12.875 acres of land.

Parcel 2

Parcel 2
Beginning on the southwest side

137.05 feet, thence binding on the southwest and west outlines of the land owned by The Real Estate and Improvement Company of Baltimore City: two courses: (3) N 64 42 00° W 30 feet, more or less, to the east side of the existing transmission right-of-way and (4) binding the N 03° 49' 19" W 107.77 feet to a place of beginning.

Containing 0.104 of an acre of land.

Being the property of Real Estate and Improvement Co. of Baltimore City, as shown on plat plan filed with the Zoning Department.

Hearing Date: Wednesday, September 7, 1983 at 10:00 A.M. Public Hearing: Room 2: Courthouse, Towson, Maryland. By order of WILLIAM T. HACKETT.

Chairman County Board of Appeals

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

TOWSON, MD., ______August 18___, 19_83__ THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper printed and published in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., KNOW TOWN day of _____ September , 19 83 , the frate publication appearing on the _18th_____ day of _____August____ 19_<u>83</u>.

THE JEFFERSONIAN

Cost of Advertisement, \$_____

SITE] RAILROAD BULLIECK CREEK VICINITY MAP SCALE : /* 500' - Ex. ML-IM - BEGINNING POINT ADDITIONAL PROPERTY EXISTING ZONING ZUNE LINE ADDITIONAL PROPERTY PARCEL #1 \$ OWNED BY PETITIONER OWNED BY PETITIONER "DR 10.5" PARCEL 12 ZOWED 'BR-CHS' TIBLE PARCEL & 2 JONED "ML-IM" RESIDENTIAL USES & RECREATIONAL USES STANSBURY ROAD R+1043.32' 4.33.611 - 352°30'35'E - 2020.97 DENIED ACCESS " N40° 05'E 49.33" 85' WIDE ACCESS -N 41°10'00'E 14250' PARCEL'L Sa3'49'19'E 12.375 AC. - N31°53'11"E "NG4.42'00"W- 1466.311.1 - PESIDENTIAL USES B. O. RAILROAD R/11 EXISTING ZONING OR 5.5 EXISTING ZONING DRS.5" EX. ZONING DR 5.5" - 1125°32'00'E 0.104 AG. EX DR 5.5 ZONE DUNIAAWAY

GENERAL NOTES
1.TOTAL AREA OF PARCELS \$1; \$2 . 12.9846.1 2. EXISTING ZUNING OF PROPERTY = "DR 5.5" 3. EXISTING USE OF PROPERTY - VACANT LAND" 4. PROPOSED ZONING OF PROPERTY = "BR-CNS" OR "MLIM" 5. PROPOSED USE OF PROPERTY - " COMMERCIAL USE" OR "MANUFACTURING USE"

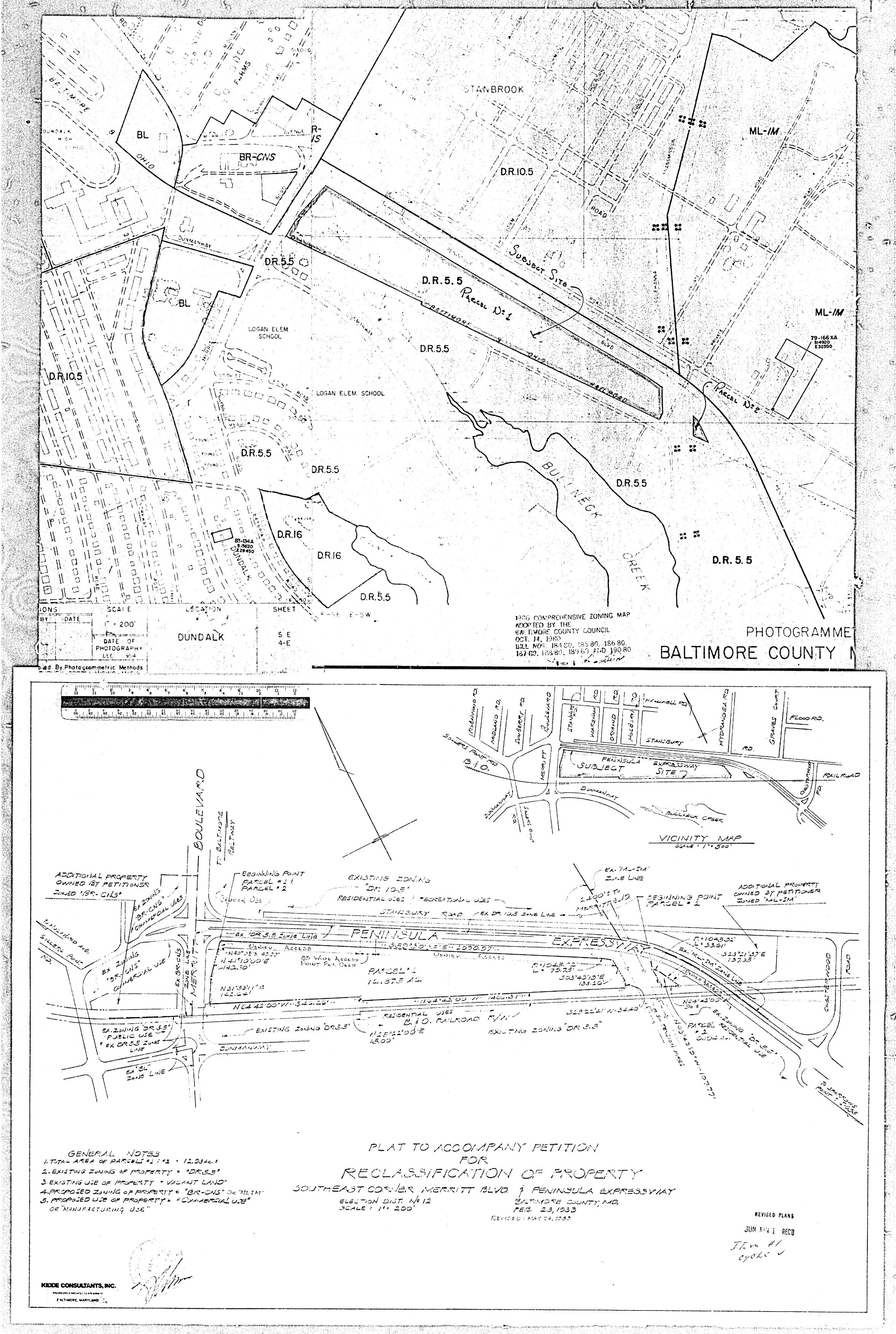
PLAT TO ACCOMPANY PETITION FOR RECLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY SOUTHEAST CORNER MERRITT BLVD. & PENINGULA EXPRESSIVAY ELECTION DIST. Nº 12 SCALE: 11: 200' BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD.

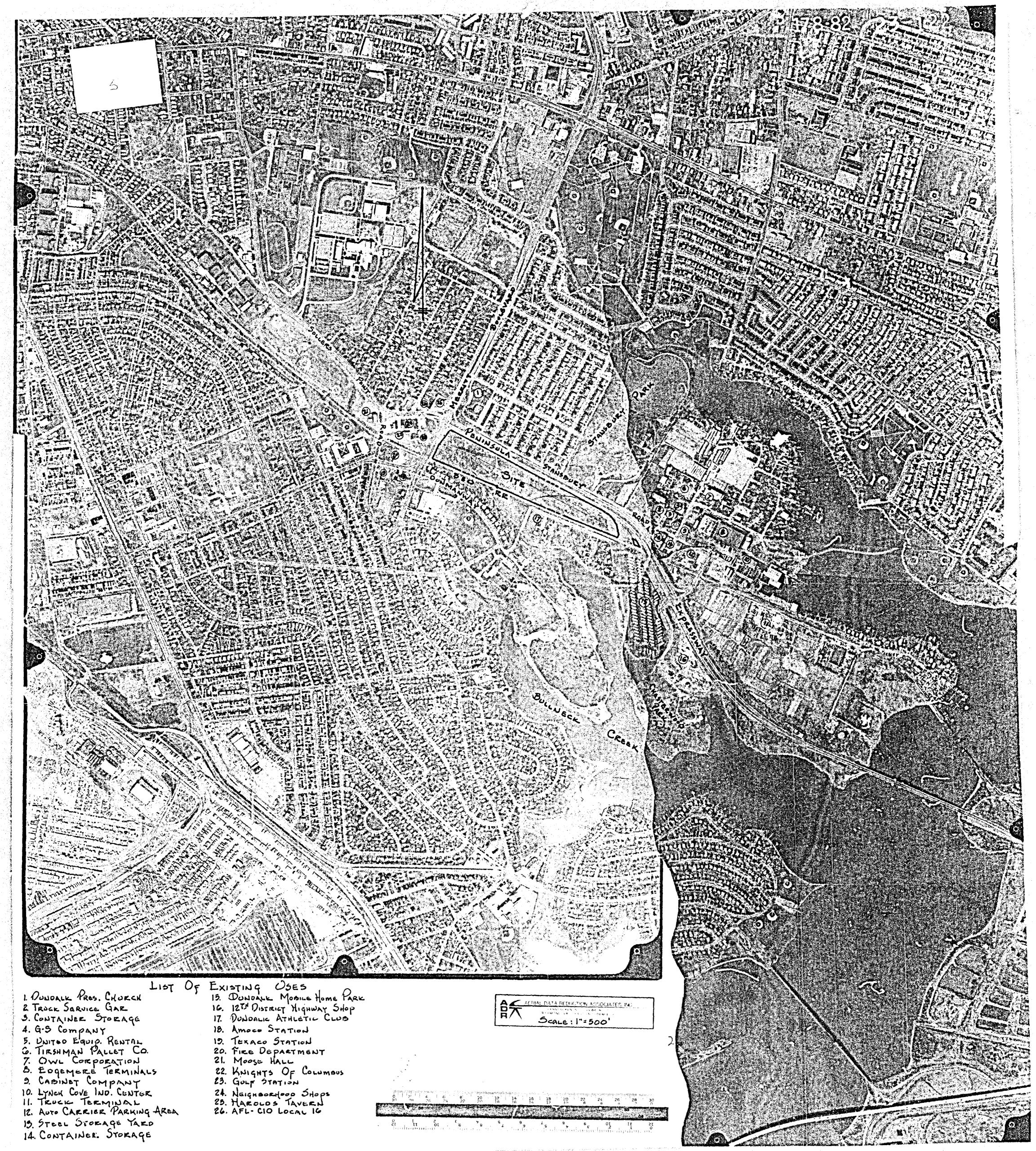
PEB. 23,1083 REVISED: MAY 24, 1985

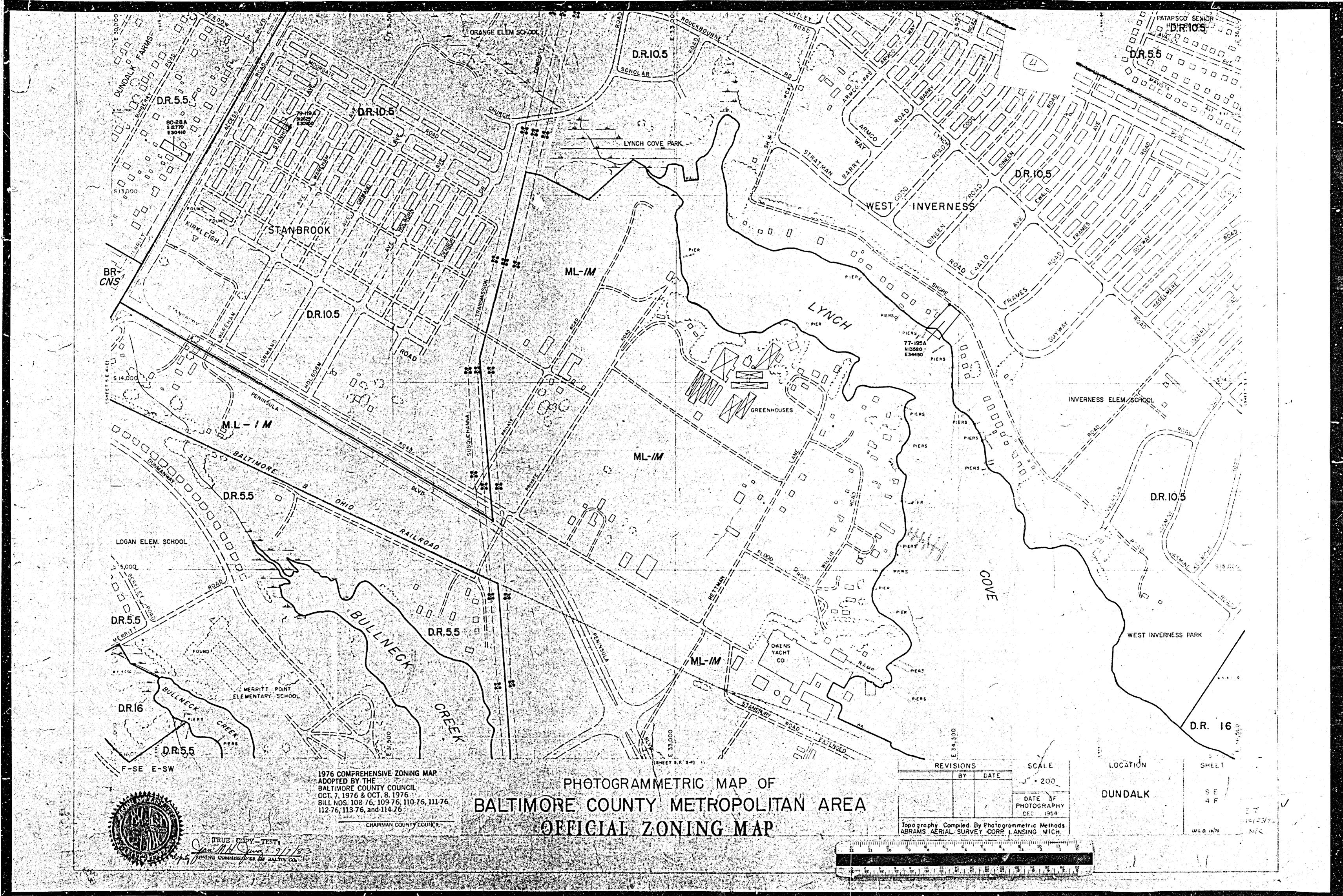
FLOOD RD.

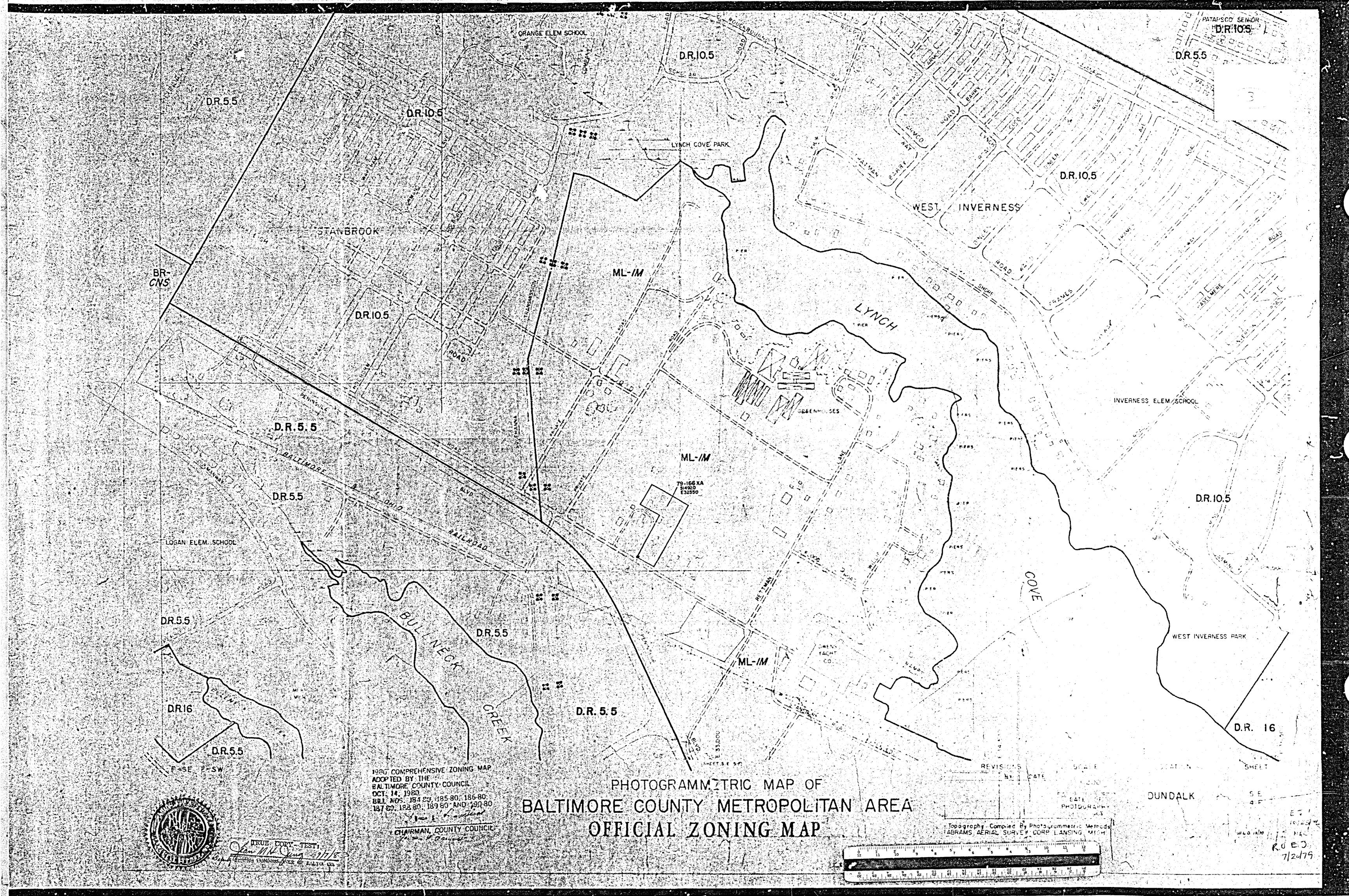
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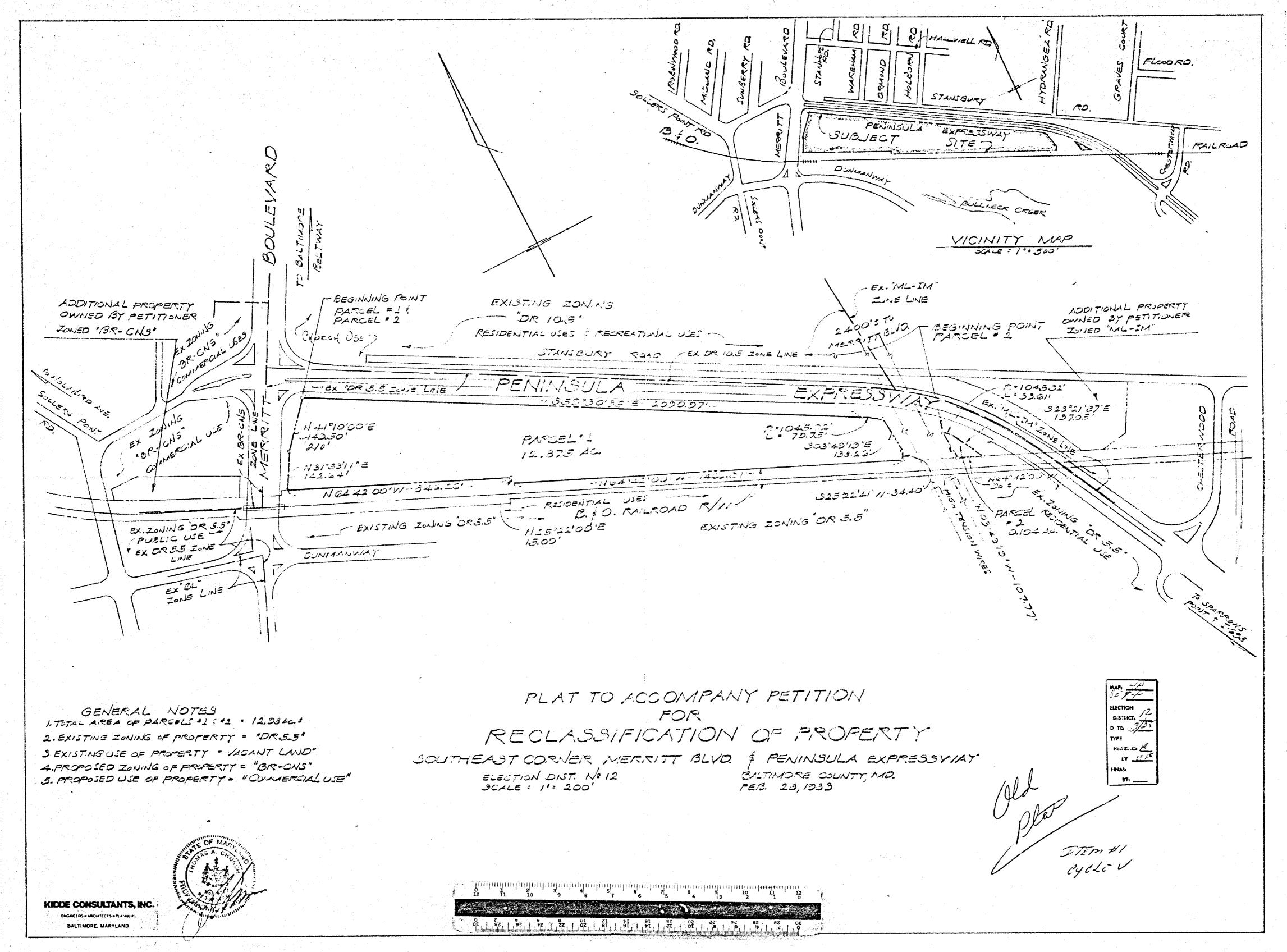
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND











BALTIMORE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204
DONALD J. ROOP, M.D., M.P.H.
DEPUTY STATE G COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

April 25, 1983

Mr. William Hackett, Chairman Board of Appeals Court House Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Mr. Hackett:

Comments on Item #1, Cycle V Meeting, March 15, 1983, are as follows:

Property Owner:

Location:

District:

r: Real Estate and Improvement Company of Baltimore City
SE/Cor. Merritt Blvd. and Peninsula

Expressway
Existing Zoning: D.R. 5.5
Proposed Zoning: Parcel "l"

Proposed Zoning: Parcel "1" - B.R.-CNS
Parcel "2" - M.L.-IM
Parcel "1" - 12.875
Parcel "2" - 0.104

The development of this property must utilize metropolitan water and sewer. The developer must submit a Hydrogeological Study and an Environmental Effects Report prior to submission of Development Plans to the County Review Group.

Ian J. Forrest, Director
BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

IJF/als

BALTIMORE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 825-7310

PAUL H. REINCKE

March 30, 1983

Nr. William Hammond cc: William Hackett
Toning Commissioner Chairman of Board of Appeals
Office of Planning and Zoning
Baltimore County Office Building
Towson, Maryland 21204

Attention: Nick Commodari, Chairman Zoning Plans Advisory Commit e

RE: Property Owner: Real Estate and Improvement Co. of Baltimore City

Location: SE/Cor. Merritt Blvd. and Peninsula Expressway

Item No.: 1

Zoning Agenda: Meeting of March 15, 1983

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed by this Bureau and the comments below marked with an "X" are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

- (X) 1. Fire hydrants for the referenced property are required and shall be located at intervals or ________ feet along an approved road in accordance with Baltimore County Standards as published by the Department of Public Works.
- () 2. A second means of vehicle access is required for the site.
- () 3. The vehicle dead end condition shown at
- EXCEEDS the maximum allowed by the Fire Department.
- ' () 4. The site shall be made to comply with all applicable parts of the Fire Prevention Code prior to occupancy or beginning of operation.
- (X) 5. The buildings and structures existing or proposed on the site shall comply with all applicable requirements of the National Fire Protection Association Standard No. 101 "Life Safety Code", 1976 Edition prior to occupancy.
- () 6. Site plans are approved, as drawn.

within recent years.

() 7. The Fire Prevention Bureau has no comments, at this time.

REVIEWER: C: + 1 Se | Killy 3/3/43 Approved: Fire Prevention Bureau

Special Inspection Division

JK /mb/cm

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. William Hackett

Chairman of the Board of Appeals
TO c/o Nicholas Commodari, Zoning Dept.

Date March 18, 1983

ITEM #1 Real Estate and Improvement Company of Baltimore City SE/Cor. Merritt Blvd. and Penninsula Expressway

Any proposed changes of use or occupancy or new construction to this property will require an applicable permit/permits. At such time, as the applicant may wish to begin such improvement or use, certain construction drawings, site plans, plot plans, etc., may be required along with the required permit applications. Unapproved occupancies, uses or construction could be deemed a violation of the Baltimore County Building Code as adopted under Council Bill #4-82, and subject to penalties or correction.

The Baltimore County Building Code is composed of The 1981 B.O.C.A. Basic Building Code, The 1981 B.O.C.A. Basic Mechanical Code, The 1981 B.O.C.A. Basic Energy Code, The 1979 One & Two Family Code and Council Bill #4-82. Also enforced by Baltimore County is the State of Maryland Handicapped Code also known as the Code of Maryland Regulations 05.01.07.

Work should begin only after a permit is issued and should be inspected and approved by the various Inspecting Departments before an occupancy permit can be granted.

No other comment can be made at this time due to the limited amount of information provided by the plan submitted.

Section 101.5
Section 103.1 Amended
Section 103.2
Section 111.1 Amended
Section 111.5
Section 111.7
Section 112.0

Section 117.0

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Robert Y. Dubel, Superintendent

Towson, Maryland – 21204

Date: March 15, 1983

Mr. Walter Reiter Chairman, Board of Appeals Baltimore County Office Building 1111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

Zoning Cycle #V

RE: Item No: 1
Property Owner: Real Estate and Improvement Co. of Baltimore City
Location: SE/Cor. Merritt Blvd. and Peninsula Expressway
Present Zoning: D.R. 5.5
Proposed Zoning: Parcel "1" - B.R.-CNS

Parcel "2" - M.L.-IM
School Situation

<u>1</u>

<u>Capacity</u> 0

Zoning

This area, if developed with the existing zoning, could yield 20 elementary and 18 secondary pupils while the proposed zoning would not yield any. Schools servicing this area are all below capacity and able to absorb any pupil yield generated by this parcel of land.

Student Yield With:

Existing
Zoning An

Elementary
Junior High

Senior High

Very truly yours,

(Im link tetronich

Wm. Nick Petrovich, Assistant

Department of Planning

WNP/bp

Richard C. Keene General Attorney Law Department

Chessie System Railroads

File: S-13343-2

100 North Charles Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201 301 237 3121 November 14, 1983

Board of Zoning Appeals
Baltimore County
2nd Floor - County Courts Building
Towson, MD 21204

Re: Case No. R-84-1; Property at Southeast Corner of Merritt Eoulevard and Peninsula Expressway; 12th Election District

Attention: Keith Franz, Chairman

Dear Mr. Franz:

Thank you for the opportunity, expressed after the hearing on November 8th, to submit case citations and argument. This letter will be in a form of legal argument, but will not be a formal brief.

As we have stated in the opening statement, and attempted to prove through the introduction of evidence, it is the position of the Petitioners that the reclassification by the County Council in 1980 was an error itself, in that the action of the County Council was arbitrary, capricious, without reasonable basis and based on invalid assumptions. The Petitioner understands the case law presumptions in Maryland that "original zoning was 'well planned' and designed to be permanent", sometimes called the "presumption of correctness", and that therefore justification for amendatory action (including but not limited to Petitions for Reclassification) must show either: (a) a change in the character of the neighborhood, as defined in the particular instance, or (b) a mistake in the original (or last classification) zoning.

It is the position of the Petitioner, however, that the presumption of correctness does not exist in this situation, and that the "well planned" justification for retention of the existing zoning does not apply because: the Planning Committee staff and Planning Board in 1976 designated the subject parcel to stay ML-IM; the Planning Committee and Planning Board in its recommendations to the Council in 1980 designated this land to stay ML-IM; the Planning Committee and Planning Board in 1983, in preliminary recommedations for the 1984 Zoning Map, have recommended that the property be changed from the DR 5.5 category (imposed by the Council in 1980) to another classification. It is obvious that the County's "expert" staff does not support and did not support the 1980 arbitrary and capricious change.

It is further the position of the Petitioner that mistake existed in the 1980 action of the Council in that the reclassification by the Council in 1980 to DR 5.5 severely impacted the useability and developability of the subject parcel, as evidenced by testimony of an expert planner and other witnesses on behalf of the Petitioner. Testimony was that, considering recent (May-Sept. 1983) sales in the 12th Election District, development of the subject parcel under the imposed D.R. 5.5 classification

1

The Chessie System Railroads, a unit of CSX Corporation, are the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, Western Maryland Railway and affiliated lines.

via construction of single family residential units would be precluded, because the cost of development (includ-ing construction, roads, sewerage, utilities, financing, development and site preparation, as well as return on land value) would require sale of the housing units at a price far in excess of the comparable market price indicated for Dundalk housing units. Development funding would not exist based on the costs and land value return factors expressed. The only evidence offered to the contrary by the Peoples' Counsel was the factually unsupported opinion testimony of Mr. Haswell that residential property development "was reasonable" and his personal opinion that the property would lend itself to development of a nursing or convalescent home, which requires special exception within the 1980 imposed classification, which special exception process has been generally opposed by Dundalk residents in other cases

- 2 -

There was obviously no change in the character of the neighborhood between 1976 and 1980 to justify its reclassification. That was evidenced by testimony of all witnesses. In fact, the population trend, as testified even by Mr. Haswell, indicated a downward adjustment in population figures from 1970 to 1980 of 23%. The 1980 census figures were obviously not available and could not have been considered by the County Council in its 1980 imposition of the D.R. 5.5 classification. The Council obviously erred in use of earlier population trend figures that were shown subsequently to be invalid. See Rockville v. Stone, 271 Md. 655 (at 662), 319 A.2d 536 (1974), cited in Peoples' Counsel vs. Williams, 45 Md. App. 617, 415 A.2d 585 (1980) and Boyce v. Sembly, 25 Md. App. 43, 334 A.2d 137 (1975).

In <u>City of Rockville v. Henley</u>, 268 Md. 469, 302 A.2d 45 (1973), an applicant for rezoning was allowed to show that he had been deprived of all reasonable use of his property and that it cannot be used for any of the permitted uses in the existing zone. That case, along with <u>Cabin John Limited v. Montgomery County</u>, 259 Md. 661, 271 A.2d 174 (1970), <u>Montgomery County v. Kacur</u>, 253 Md. 220, 252 A.2d 832 (1969), and other cases cited by <u>Stratakis v. Beauchamp</u>, 268 Md. 643, 304 A.2d 244 (1973), point out that "generalizations of economic infeasibility" are insufficient evidence. In the case before the Board the evidence of Petitioner was not of generalizations but specifics.

This Stratakis court also pointed out, at page 655, that:

"... an opinion, even that of an expert, is not evidence strong or substantial enough to show error in the comprehensive rezoning or confiscation unless the reasons given by the expert as the basis for his opinion or other supporting facts relied upon by him are, themselves, substantial and strong enough to do so." (underlining supplied)

In the instant case, the testimony of Mr. Smith, using a detailed map and planning diagram, considered setback lines, floodplain impact, open space requirements, topography, lot configuration, road access, proximity of railroad line, parking and building height restrictions, and showed that all of the property could be physically developed for the single-family group homes, but the testimony of Mr. Fox and Mr.

Smith was that the development costs of such units, coupled with the land cost, would exceed the market price of comparable units sold in the Dundalk (12th Election District) area in the 6 months prior to the first portion of the hearing in September, and subsequent to the rezoning change in 1980, and thus the physical development would be economically precluded. These statements were not mere generalizations, but were detailed and supported by factual developments, and were uncontroverted by factual testimony offered by Peoples' Counsel.

To the contrary, the testimony of the "expert" witness for Peoples' Counsel was a generalization that the property "could be reasonably used and developed under the D.R. 5.5 zoning" and that the issue was "fairly debatable". The only such specific development use proffered (again, without plans or detailed specifications of the construction, cost, placement, compliance with other regulations, etc.) by Mr. Haswell, was a use permitted only under Special Exception within the general category, without affirmative proof that such a Special Exception could or would be granted. In the current case, comments of the Planning Staff, in its written report, concerning utilization of area highways, were refuted, both by testimony of the Transit and Traffic witness for Peoples' Counsel, and testimony of the expert witness (Mr. Erdman) proffered by Petitioner.

Although Stratakis v. Beauchamp supra, confirmed prior holdings that "In some cases a report of the Planning Staff recommending approval of an application may alone be sufficient to make the issue fairly debatable", it provided that the opinions of the Planning Staff and recommendations of the Planning Staff must also, as the opinions of all other experts, meet the same test of reasonable factual basis. Where a Staff report deals largely in abstractions, without meaningful specifics, it is akin to a "tinkling cymbal". Stratakis v. Beauchamp, at page 657, citing Board v. Oak Hill Farms, 232 Md. 274 (1947), at page 284. Montgomery County v. Woodward & Lothrop, 280 Md. 686, 376 A. 483 (1977), at page 686 indicates that: "Zoning is, of course, a legislative function, and our (sic: Court's) review of the acts of the zoning authority is restricted and narrow in scope. We decide only whether the zoning action was arbitrary, discriminatory or illegal; we do not substitute our judgment for that of the zoning authority if its decision is supported by substantial evidence and the issue is fairly debatable." (underlining supplied) The 1980 zoning decision was not supported by any evidence, including any recommendation (even by generalization) of the Planning Staff or Planning Committee.

In the Sinking Fund Cases, 99 U.S. 700 (1878), cited with approval in Feldstein v. Kammauf, 209 Md. 479 (1956) at 487, it has been held as a long-standing principle of American law that "The police power cannot interfere with private property rights for purely aesthetic purposes". In the instant case, the primary concerns of the citizens, and expressed concerns of the County planner and Planning Staff, are that the subject parcel is visible from the residential areas which surround it (and which had surrounded it for 30 years prior to its rezoning in 1980) and this visual impact was detrimental to the community. All other concerns raised by the Planning Staff in its attempt to support the 1980 change (which it did not recommend in 1979-80, and which it now has abandoned in 1983-84) were rebutted strongly by evidence of the Petitioner: evidence of access to the subject parcel by way of a reserved traffic cut in Peninsula Expressway, which could be relocated with necessary traffic signalization by agreement between the property owner and the County; the impact of wetness and floodplain or flood zones, which is in fact greater upon residential

development than industrial development; the underutilization of Peninsula Express-way and other commercial access roadways adjacent to the property; proximity of the railroad tracks (over which trains continue to operate several times per day or night and which were expressed by area residents who live further away from the subject site as annoying to them); the decline in a future residential housing base in the neighborhood; need of the community for on-going employment opportunities.

Again, it is proffered that the desires of the Planning Staff, acting as agent for the County Council, in the current case are to establish a "buffer zone", or "open space", for benefit of the area residential property owners, which buffer zone or open space are <u>public</u> benefits, required to be performed at the expense of the private property owner. Such actions are violations of the 4th and 5th Amendments of the United States Constitution, and Article 23. of the Declaration of Rights of the State of Maryland. Kracke v. Weinberg, 197 Md. 339, 79 A.2d 387 (1951).

The Court of Appeals, in Montgomery County v. Woodward & Lothrop, supra, recognized, from Spaid v. Board, 259 Md. 369, 269 A.2d 797 (1970), that there may be lawful as well as unlawful buffer zones: "That there may be a transitional zone or less intensive use properly placed between a residential use district and a district permitting commercial or more intensive uses as long as the transitional use does not deprive the property owner of all reasonable use of his property." In the instant case, the Petitioner argues that the Council's actions in the 1980 rezoning result in an expansion of the legitimate transition zones (already allowed under other regulation sections not challenged) into creation of the entire parcel of Petitioner as a buffer zone, depriving the petitioner-property owner of its rights and property, without just compensation, an action sounding in eminent domain rather than proper exercise of the police power.

Where there is strong evidence of a mistake in the original (latest) zoning (as in failure to anticipate a trend toward or away from a use or increase or decrease in demand for a use) a correction of that mistake by the Roard will be sustained on appeal. Overton v. Board, 225 Md. 212, 170 A.2d 172 (1961), Rohde v. County Board, 234 Md. 259, 199 A.2d 216 (1964), Dill v. Jobar Corp., 242 Md. 16, 217 A.2d 564 (1966), Mack v. Crandell, 244 Md. 193, 223 A.2d 248 (1966).

Although the Petitioner initially argued that insufficient notice was given to the Petitioner of the subject change, in 1980, and although the testimony of the Petitioner's witness was corroborated by that of the Planning Staff member, James Haswell, to the effect that the zoning of the subject parcel was not recommended for change by the Planning Staff Commission either in 1976 or 1980, but that the property was identified as parcel 7-55 only in August 1980 for the final September 1980 Council Hearing, Petitioner believes at this point that its arguments on notice are precluded by Rasnake v. Cecil County Board, 268 Md. 295, 300 A.2d 651 (1973), and Swarthmore Company v. Kaestner, 258 Md. 517, 266 A.2d 341 (1970), citing prior cases of Hewitt v. Baltimore County Commission, 220 Md. 48, 151 A.2d 144 (1959), Ark Readi-mix Concrete Corp. v. Smith, 251 Md. 1, 246 A.2d 220 (1968) and Nottingham Village v. Baltimore County, 266 Md. 339, 292 A.2d 680 (1972). The Hewitt, Swarthmore and Nottingham Village line of cases involved changes in comprehensive zoning maps, wherein the subjects to be considered at hearings were wide, as opposed to involving a single, narrow subject or property, as did the cases of Rasnake, and Storch v. Howard County Board, 267 Md. 476, 298 A.2d 8 (1972) et al.

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WAIH County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County Room 200 Court House (Hearing Room #218) - 5 -Room 200 Court House Towson, Maryland 21204 Cowson, Maryland 21204 BEFORE THE BALTIMORE COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (301) 494-3180 In summation, the Petitioner believes that it has offered strong and substantial probative evidence that there was mistake in fact and law in the action of (301) 494-3180 the County Council in 1980 in changing the zoning of the subject parcel from ML-IM to CONTINUED HEARING D.R. 5.5, and that such action should be reversed, and the original ML-IM zoning January 24, 1984 Application of Mt. Clare Properties (Md.) Inc., Case No. R-84-1 NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT Owner, for Reclassification: The Property Southeast Corner Thank you for the opportunity to present this final argument in writing. of Merritt Boulevard and Pen-We would expect that, if Peoples' Counsel believes it necessary, Peoples' Counsel will D.R.5.5 (1980) to M. L.-I.M. (1976) NO POSTPONEMENTS WILL BE GRANTED WITHOUT GOOD AND SUFFICIENT insula Expressway; 12th Election also submit a written argument. Regardless of the nature of the argument, we will Richard C. Keene, Esquire 22nd Floor, One Charles Center REASONS. REQUESTS FOR POSTPONEMENTS MUST BE IN WRITING AND IN offer no further rebuttal. Baltimore, Maryland 21202 STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD RULE 2(b). ABSOLUTELY NO POSTPONE-MENTS WILL BE GRANTED WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SCHEDULED HEAR-Re: case No. R-84-1 ING DATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 2(c), COUNTY COUNCIL BILL #59-79 Real Estate and Development Co. of Baltimore City, Inc. REQUEST FOR SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM RCK:fab CASE NO. R-84-1 REAL ESTATE AND IMPROVEMENT CO. OF BALTO.CITY John W. Hessian, III, Esq., Peoples Counsel Dear Mr. Keene: The Petitioner, Mt. Clare Properties (Maryland) Inc. by its attorney, FOR RECLASSIFICATION FROM D.R. 5.5 to B.R.-CNS and M.L.-IM 102 West Pennsylvania Avenue Enclosed herewith is a copy of the Opinion and Order Richard C. Keene, respectfully requests the Baltimore County Soard of Appeals to Towson, MD 21204 passed today by the County Board of Appeals in the above entitled SE corner Merritt Blvd. and issue a Summons and Subpoena Duces Tecum, in accordance with Rule 5, Rules of Peninsula Expressway Richard L. Smith, Practice and Procedure of the County Board of Appeals, as follows: Kidde Consultants, Inc. Very truly yours, 1020 Cromwell Bridge Road 12th District Towson, MD 21204 Party(les) to be summoned: ASSIGNED FOR: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1983 at 10 a.m. A. Thomas D. Toporovich, Baltimore County Council Secretary, (Room D. L. Lancaster 10/18/83 212) Courts and Administration Building, 111 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Towson, MD cc: Richard C. Keene, Esq. Counsel for Petitioner G. C. Totty, Director Petitioner Real Estate and Industrial Dev. Encl. Real Estate and Improv. Co. B. Custodian of Records, Office of Planning and Zoning, Baltimore Mt. Clare Properties (Md.), Inc. cc: G. C. Totty Contract Purchaser County, 401 Bosley Avenue, (Suite 406) County Courts Building, Towson, MD 21204; J. R. Hickman Mt. Clare Properties (Md.), Inc. David L. Lancaster David L. Lancaster or Representatives of C. Custodian of Records, Baltimore County Planning Board, 401 Bosley William P. Coffing, Jr. William P. Coffing, Jr. Contract Purchaser Phyllis C. Friedman John W. Hessian, III, Esq. Avenue, Towson, MD 21204; People's Counsel J. E. Jablon J. E. Dyer J. E. Jablon And each of the above parties summoned shall bring with him or her the N. E. Gerber J. E. Dyer J. G. Hoswell following materials: Board of Education N. E. Gerber . Baltimore County Council Secretary: J. G. Hoswell 1. Preliminary Report of the Planning Board recommending adoption of 9 13 Board of Education the 1980 Comprehensive Zoning Map; Edith T. Eisenhart, Adm. Secretary THE RESIDENCE AND MEDICAL SALE OF BILLIMORE COUNTY 0 0 August 10, 1983 3. Copies of notes, comments, suggestions, revisions, etc., proposed by the 2. Final Report of the Planning Board to the Council, recommending Richard C. Keene, Esquire Planning Board and/or Planning Committee relative to changes proposed for Map 4A Suite 2204 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING adoption of the 1980 Comprehensive Zoning Map; 100 North Charles Street 3. Copies of Notices and Hearing Minutes for Public Hearing(s) of the for the 1984 Zoning Cycle. Baltimore, Maryland 21201 I hereby certify that I mailed a copy of the aforesaid Request for C. Planning Board: County Council on the 1980 Comprehensive Zoning Map; NOTICE OF HEARING Summons/Subpoena Duces Tecum to John W. Hessian, III, Esq., Peoples Counsel, Suite 1. Copies of each draft of the 1980 Comprehensive Zoning Map, Map 4A 4. Date, place, time, copy of Notice and Minutes of subsequent hearing(s) Re: Petition for Reclassification & Redistricting Parcel 1 - SE/corner Merritt Blvd. & Peninsula 603, 102 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Towson, MD 21204, this Mkday of October, 1983. only, and proposed amendment(s) thereto, commencing with the original proposal by held in reference all amendments or changes proposed by the County Council to the Expressway; Parcel 2 - SW/S Peninsula Expressway, 2, 400' SE of Merritt Blvd. the Planning Board to the County Council and terminating with the Zoning Map as Map as originally proposed by the Planning Board; Real Estate and Improvement Co. of Balto, City - Petitioner Case No. R-8 -1 Cycle V - Item #1 adopted by the County Council by Ordinance; 5. Date, place, time, copy of Notice and Minutes for Council Hearing(s) 2. Copies of Departmental notes, comments, suggestions, revisions, held specifically in the Seventh Councilmanic District on the 1980 Comprehensive objections, minority reports, etc., relaive to any changes on 1980 Comprehensive Zoning Map; 10:00 A.M. TIME: Zoning Map, Map 4A only, between the date of original issuance by the Planning Board 6. Date, place, time, copy of Notice and Minutes of subsequent hearing(s) and date of adoption by Ordinance by the County Council. held in reference all amendments or changes proposed by the County Council to the Wednesday, September 7, 1983 3. Copies of notes, comments, suggestions, revisions, etc., proposed by the 1980 Comprehensive Zoning Map (Map 4A only), as originally proposed by the Planning Planning Board and/or Planning Committee relative to changes proposed for Map 4A PLACE: Room 218, Courthouse, Towson, Maryland Board, within the Seventh Councilmanic District; Rec'd, 10/17/83 for the 1984 Zoning Cycle. 7. Record of votes cast and counted for adoption of the 1980 Compre-9 a.m. cc: People's Counsel And the same shall appear with the requested records, at the hearing on hensive Zoning Map, particularly Map 4A, 7th Councilmanic District. the above Petition, now rescheduled for Tuesday, November 8, 1983, at 10:00 AM at Mr. Sheriff: B. Office of Planning and Zoning: the Board of Zoning Appeals Hearing Room, Courthouse and Administrative Building, 1. Copies of each draft of the 1980 Comprehensive Zoning Map, Map 4A Please issue this summons. III Pennsylvania Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204, and there testify in the above only, and proposed amendment(s) thereto, commencing with the original proposal by County Board of Appeals the Planning Board to the County Council and terminating with the Zoning Map as Respectfully submitted, adopted by the County Council by Ordinance; Above notified of CONTINUED HEARING scheduled for TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1983 at 10 a.m. John C Keene 2. Copies of Departmental notes, comments, suggestions, revisions, objec-Edith T. Eisenhart, Adm. Secretary County Board of Appeals of Baltimore Richard C. Keene tions, minority reports, etc., relative to any changes on 1980 Comprehensive Zoning Attorney for Applicant Map, Map 4A only, between the date of original issuance by the Planning Board and date of adoption by Ordinance by the County Council.

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Richmond, Virginia 23261

STATEMENT TO SUPPORT ZONING RECLASSIFICATION

At the time the Legal Owner/Petitioner, Real Estate Improvement Company of Baltimore City, acquired the subject property in 1945, the property was zoned for industrial use. The property was shown on the 1976 County Comprehensive Zoning Plan Map as having an industrial classification of ML-IM. At the time the Contract Owner/Petitioner, Mt. Clare Properties (Md.) Inc., acquired the property from its corporate affiliate (by deed dated December 14, 1977, unrecorded), the property was also zoned industrial.

However, under the most recent amendment to the Comprehensive Zoning Map, in 1980, the industrial zoning was downshifted to DR-5.5 (Residential). Neither petitioner received actual notice of this zoning change when proposed, as the initial draft of the 1980 Map retained the ML-IM zoning. Petitioners first learned of the actual zoning change in February 1983 at the time of placement of the parcel for sale with an area realtor. Therefore, the Peititioners were not able to object to the zoning reclassification nor point out certain obstacles to the utilization of this property which would prevent it from being developed or marketed under the then proposed (now existing) residential classification, as follows:

(1) During the initial hearings on the 1980 Comprehensive Zoning Plan Map amendment, the County Planning Department stated that there was no access to the subject property. This statement was not factual then, nor is it factual today. There is access to the property from Peninsula Expressway via deed reservation (Deed to Baltimore County dated 2-29-60, recorded in Liber WJR 3680 Folio 53) and such access is shown on the attached site plan. However, since this is a limited access, and since residential use would require an adjacent service road (taking up (01.1+ acres) the resultant property would be too small and unfit for residential development.

(2) The subject property is surrounded on three sides by major arterial and through highways and bounded on the south by the mainline of the B&O Railroad (also a corporate affiliate of Petitioners). These thoroughfares and railroad would constitute a nuisance and a danger to a residential community, and would preclude or certainly seriously limit any residential use or development of the subject property.

(3) A portion of the property to the east is crossed by a high voltage transmission line which would restrict the height of any construction on the property, also constitute a nuisance and danger, and is not conducive to a residential environment.

(4) A large portion of the property is located in the 500 Year Flood Plain; and although acceptable for industrial and/or commercial uses, such a location would be disadvantageous for habitation. The topography of the plot would require extensive fill for marketable residential use.

(5) The widest portion of the property, to the west, is subject to a public easement for rurface water drainage and a culvert draining the Merritt Boulevard -Peninsula Exp. sway interchange south to Bullneck Creek. This factor would preclude residential development, and was not considered by the Planning Commis-

CSX Corporation is the parent company of: Family Lines Rail System, Chessie System Railroads, Florica Publishing Company, The Greenbrier resort hotel, Aviation Enterprises, Inc., and coal-land, real estate and oil and gas exterprises.

Richmond, Virginia 23261

(6) Water and closed sewerage are not directly available to the site, the closest point being from Stansbury Road to the inth, across Peninsula Expressay. (7) The narrow and irregular configuration of the property, when considering setback limits, does not lend itself to residential development.

The petitioners' position is that: because of (a) the extensive highway and railroad impact; (b) the narrow depth; irregular shape, and topography; (c) utility and services impairments; and (d) errors and omissions in the 1980 decision process; the current classification of DR-5.5 precludes development, marketing, and meaningful utilization of the property, which, in actuality, amounts to a confiscation of private property without just compensation.

With the extensive frontage on Peninsula Expressway (2,090+ feet), the proximity of existing neighborhood be served, the demand for employment sources and tax base expansions, the highest and best use of the subject property would be for light-commerical purposes, and therefore, a reclassification to BR-CNS is requested.

In the event that BR-CNS zoning is inconsistent with County Planning Guidelines, Petitioners request that the property be returned to its original zoning classification of ML-IM.

MT. CLARE PROPERTIES (Md.) INC.

KIDDE CONSULTANTS, INC.

Cable: KIDDENGR Telex: 87769 1020 Cromwell Bridge Road Baltimore, Maryland 21204

the state of the s

(301) 321-5500 Direct Dial Number 321-5512

DESCRIPTION

TWO PARCELS, SOUTHWEST SIDE OF PENINSULA EXPRESSWAY AT MERRITT BOULEVARD, DUNDALK, BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND.

This Description is for Rezoning from DR 5.5 to BR-CNS, or ML-IM Zoning.

Parcel 1

Beginning at the southeast corner of Merritt Boulevard and Peninsula Expressway and running thence binding on the southwest side of said Peninsula Expressway, two courses: (1) S 59° 30' 35" E 2090.97 feet and (2) southeasterly, by a curve to the right with a radius of 1045.92 feet, the arc distance of 79.75 feet, thence binding on the easterly and southwesterly outlines of the land owned by The Real Estate and Improvement Company of Baltimore City, five courses: (3) S 03° 49' 19" E 138.26 feet, (4) S 25° 22' 41" W 34.40 feet, (5) N 64° 42' 00" W 1466.31 feet, (6) N 25° 22' 00" E 15.00 feet and (7) N 64° 42' 00" W 846.26 feet to the southeast side of said Merritt Boulevard, thence binding thereon, three courses: (8) N 31° 53' 11" E 142.64 feet, (9) N 41° 10' 00" E 149.50 feet and (10) N 40° 05' 00" E 49.99 feet to the place of beginning.

CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Containing 12.875 acres of land.

REVISED PLANS JUN 1 RECO

Tim HI Eyeti V KIDDE CONSULTANTS, INC.

Description May 24, 1983 Page Two.

Parcel 2

Beginning on the southwest side of Peninsula Expressway at a point distant 2400 feet, more or less, as measured southeasterly along the southwest side of said Peninsula Expressway, from the southeast side of Merritt Boulevard, running thence binding on the southwest side of said Peninsula Expressway, two courses: (1) southeasterly, by a curve to the right with a radius of 1045.92 feet, the arc distance of 33.61 feet and (2) S 28° 21' 37" E 137.05 feet, thence binding on the southwest and west outlines of the land owned by The Real Estate and Improvement Company of Baltimore City, two courses: (3) N 64° 42' 00" W 90 feet, more or less, to the east side of the existing transmission right-of-way and (4) binding thereon N 03° 49" 19" W 107.77 feet to the place of beginning.

Containing 0.104 of an acre of land.

J.O. 1-83039

May 24, 1983



CSX Corporation is the parent company of: Family Lines Rail System, Chessie System Railroads, Florida Publishing

Company, The Greenbrier resort hotel, Aviation Enterprises, Inc., and coal-land, real estate and oil and gas enterprises

12th Election District

of Peninsula Expressway, 2,400 ft. Southeast of Merritt

ZONING: Petition for Reclassification and Redistricting

LOCATION: Parcel I - Southeast corner of Merritt Boulevard and Peninsula Expressway and Parcel 2 - Southwest side

PETITION FOR RECLASSIFICATION AND REDISTRICTING

DATE & TIME: Wednesday, September 7, 1983 at 10:00 A.M.

PUBLIC HEARING: Room 218, Courthouse, Towson, Maryland

The County Board of Appeals for Baltimore County, by authority of the Baltimore County Charter, will hold a public hearing:

Present Zoning: D.R. 5.5 (Parcels 1 and 2) Proposed Zoning: B.R.-C.N.S or M.L.-I.M. (Parcels 1 and 2)

All that parcel of land in the Twelth District of Baltimore County

Being the property of Real Estate and Improvement Co. of Baltimore City, as shown on plat plan filed with the Zoning Department.

Hearing Date: Wednesday, September 7, 1983 at 10:00 A.M. Public Hearing: Room 218, Courthouse, Towson, Maryland

> BY ORDER OF WILLIAM T. HACKETT, CHAIRMAN COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

IN THE MATTER **BEFORE** OF THE APPLICATION OF REAL ESTATE AND IMPROVEMENT CO. COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE CITY, INC. FOR REZONING OF PROPERTY FROM D.R. 5.5 to B.R.-CNS and M.L.-IM (2 parcels) BALTIMORE COUNTY SE CORNER MERRITT BLVD. and PENINSULA EXPRESSWAY NO. R-84-1 12th DISTRICT Item #1 - Cycle V

OPINION

This case came before the Board on a request by the Petitioner for reclassification of 12.875 acres from D.R. 5.5 to B.R.-CNS and .104 acres from D.R. 5.5 to M.L.-I.M. The parcels are adjacent and comprise the site located at the southeast corner of Merritt Boulevard and Peninsula Expressway, in the Twelfth Election District of Baltimore County. The property was zoned M.L.-I.M. on the 1976

comprehensive zoning map and then rezoned D.R. 5.5 in the 1980 zoning map process. Petitioner presented experts who testified as to the suitability of the proposed change. The Board will not describe in detail the basis of their opinions but will rather let the record speak for itself in this regard. There is no dispute that the subject property is surrounded on three sides by major highways and on one side by the mainline of the B & O Railroad. In addition, high voltage wires cross the property at one end and a large portion of the lot is located in the 500 year flood plain. Water and closed sewerage are not readily available to the site and the widest portion of the property is subject to a public easement for surface water drainage and a culvert draining the Merritt Boulevard-Peninsula Expressway interchange south to Bullock Creek. Additionally, the Petitioner argues upon the testimony of credible expert witnesses that development of the parcel into single family dwellings under the D.R. 5.5 classification would be extremely difficult and costly, such to require a sale price of individual homes well in excess of that which could be anticipated to be paid for such homes in this neighborhood. These facts they allege, individually and cumulatively, reflect that the County Council erroneously reclassified this parcel in 1980, and that because of this error reclassification to the requested zone is appropriate.

REAL ESTATE - #R-84-1

Amongst the witnesses produced by Protestants were representatives of the Eastfield Stanbrook Civic Association and the Presbyterian church located across the street from the subject property. These individuals, as well as subsequent witnesses, expressed concerns regarding increased traffic, additional drainage, an overabundance of commercially zoned properties in the area and disruption of the residential complexion of the neighborhood, if the property were to be developed commercially.

Additional testimony from Michael Flonigan, Assistant Traffic Engineer for Baltimore County, reflected that his office has serious reservations about the property being developed commercially due to the consequences that development would have on increase of traffic in this neighborhood.

James Hoswell, a planning expert with Baltimore County, testified that in his professional opinion not only aid the zoning of the Petitioner's property provide a reasonable use, but that the best use for the property would be one that would be allowed under the present zoning. That is, construction of a convalescent home permitted by special exception for properties of this zoning classification under the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations. Mr. Hoswell also related in great detail the planning and zoning processes as they occur every four years during the comprehensive zoning process. The Petitioner questions that process used by the County Council in their comprehensive zoning The Board is of the opinion that all legally required steps were taken and that all County officials fulfilled their obligations in the 1980 process. The Petitioner complained that lack of notice to them of the proposed reclassification in 1980 deprived them of the opportunity to object at that time and in itself constitutes error and denial of Such is not the opinion of the Board. The comprehensive zoning process is public and open, and affords all property owners and neighbors an opportunity to attend We believe that such action by the County Council does not amount to eminent domain powers such as would take the property from the owner, but rather amount to an exercise of police powers that regulate use of the land. Case law supports the position that we take and we thus hold that lack of notice of the proposed reclassification in 1980 does not in itself indicate error.

REAL ESTATE - #R-84-1

Upon the testimony received, the Board further believes that no substantial change in the neighborhood has taken place since 1980. We are accutely mindful of the Petitioner's argument that no change had taken place prior to 1980 sufficient to warrant reclassification at that time to a residential zone. We, of course, are required to assess change only since the latest reclassification in reviewing the standard necessary to warrant reclassification. Regardless of the merit of Petitioner's argument prior to 1980, we cannot supplant our opinion in that regard for that of the County Council where there is sufficient evidence to support the finding that neither change in the neighborhood since 1980, nor error such to restrict a reasonable use, exists. For these reasons, the Board will deny the requested reclassification.

ORDER

For the reasons set forth in the aforegoing Opinion, it is this 24th day of January, 1984, by the County Board of Appeals, ORDERED that the reclassification petitioned for, be and the same is hereby DENIED.

Any appeal from this decision must be in accordance with Rules B-1 thru B-13 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.

> COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HUNGIAM Keith S. Franz, Acting Chairman

REAL BETATE + Improvement Co.

Raymond D. Di Blasio

WM. E. Thomas

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BELOW, Appended As PARTIES PROTESTANT BEFORE THE COUNTY

8 Marina DK. Zd. Eleanor Grothe 55 Vista Mills of. Maria Bellissimo Laurence Hellman 18 Vista Moble dr. Rose Swisler 2022 Theseham Rd. 2030 Warehour Rd Elystell Horsey Mary Williams 2026 WAREHAM ROAD KARIN MACNEAL 2024 WAREHAM RD. 2029 Warchen Rd gran & Butter Mary Familiar 2029 Wareham Rd 1967 Hallion Rol Buth Xelly 1962 Denling Dr. 1963 Denlung Dr. Catherine Morisi Hisciz Wellein 1952 Storlope Rel 2018 Ohmand Rd. 21222 John O. Bird Mildred M. Bird 3018 Ormand Old. 21222 Eileen Meyers 1946 Halbarn Rd. WILLIAM G. MEYERS Betty A. Ricketts

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Mrs. Judy Shifflett 1940 Ormand Rd. Balts, Md. 21200 Mr. Nette Shifflett 1934 armord Rd. Balto, ned. 2122 1941 Ormand Rd Baltimore 1212 Mrs Etha Knight 52 Mile Rodge DV Balto, Md. 21222 5 Vista hubile on Balto ma 21222 Elizabeth Vlat Paulin molt 36 Vista Mobile Dr. Balto Md 21222 Nois allen 33 Modele Lodge Batt nd 21222 Mary Nevelle 2021 Warehor KD Ballo md. 21222 ale S. Dulinez William Copeland 19-12- Denbury 18t. Balto, Md 21222 1914 Wichm Ro Bato mo 21222 Clinton Stalling Chamie Stallings 1914 Wareham Rd Balt. nd. 21222 2010 Denbury Dr. Batto Md 21222 Dous Rusick 2 il Benbury Dr. Balte. M/ 21222 Ena V. Degutio Horman Motonen. 6500 DUNGANWAY Dundale 21222 1822 Dunnere B. BALTO, MD. 21222 1954 Stankpe Pd. Bolt mD 21332 2018 Wareham RD Dunladmel 21222

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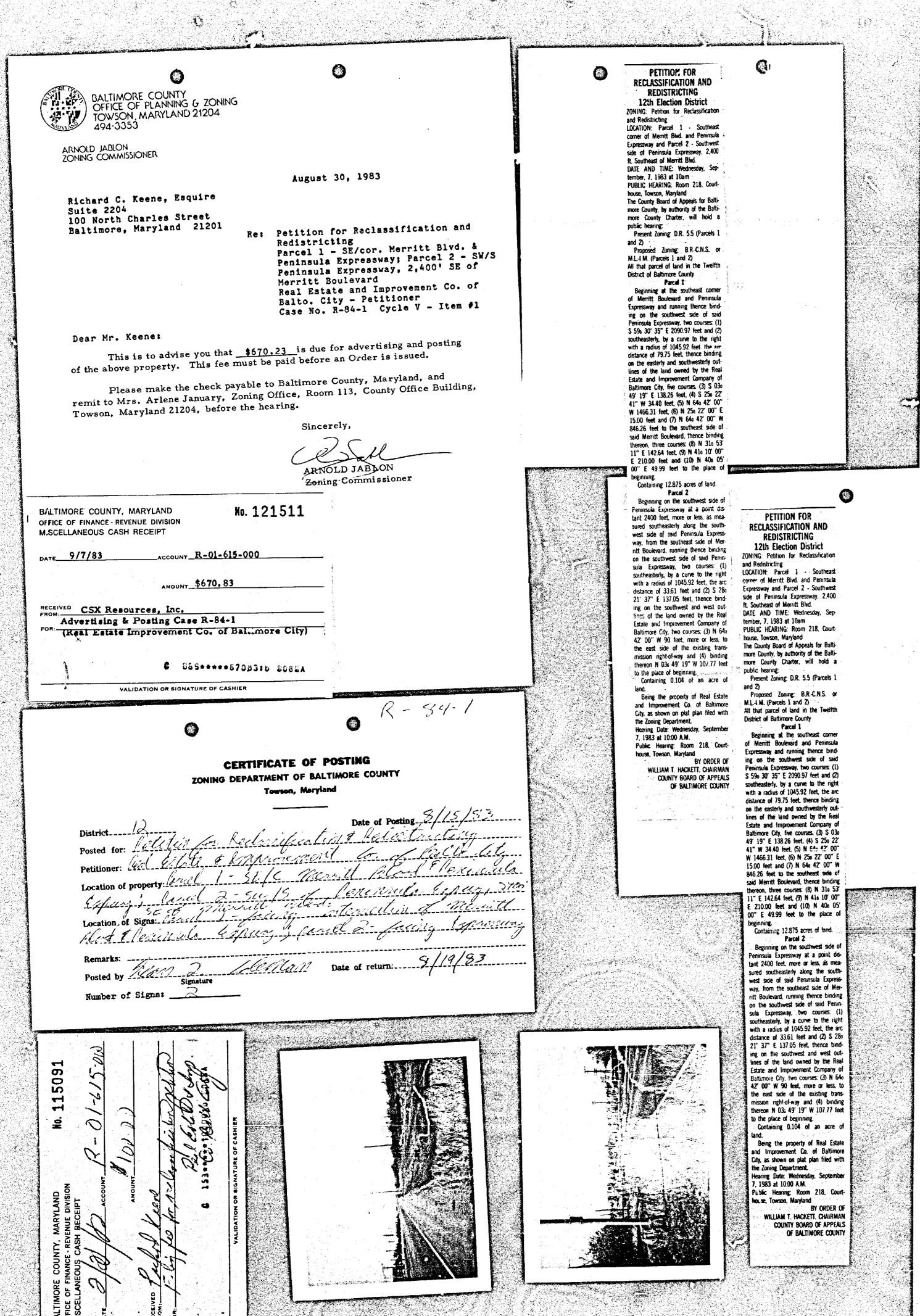
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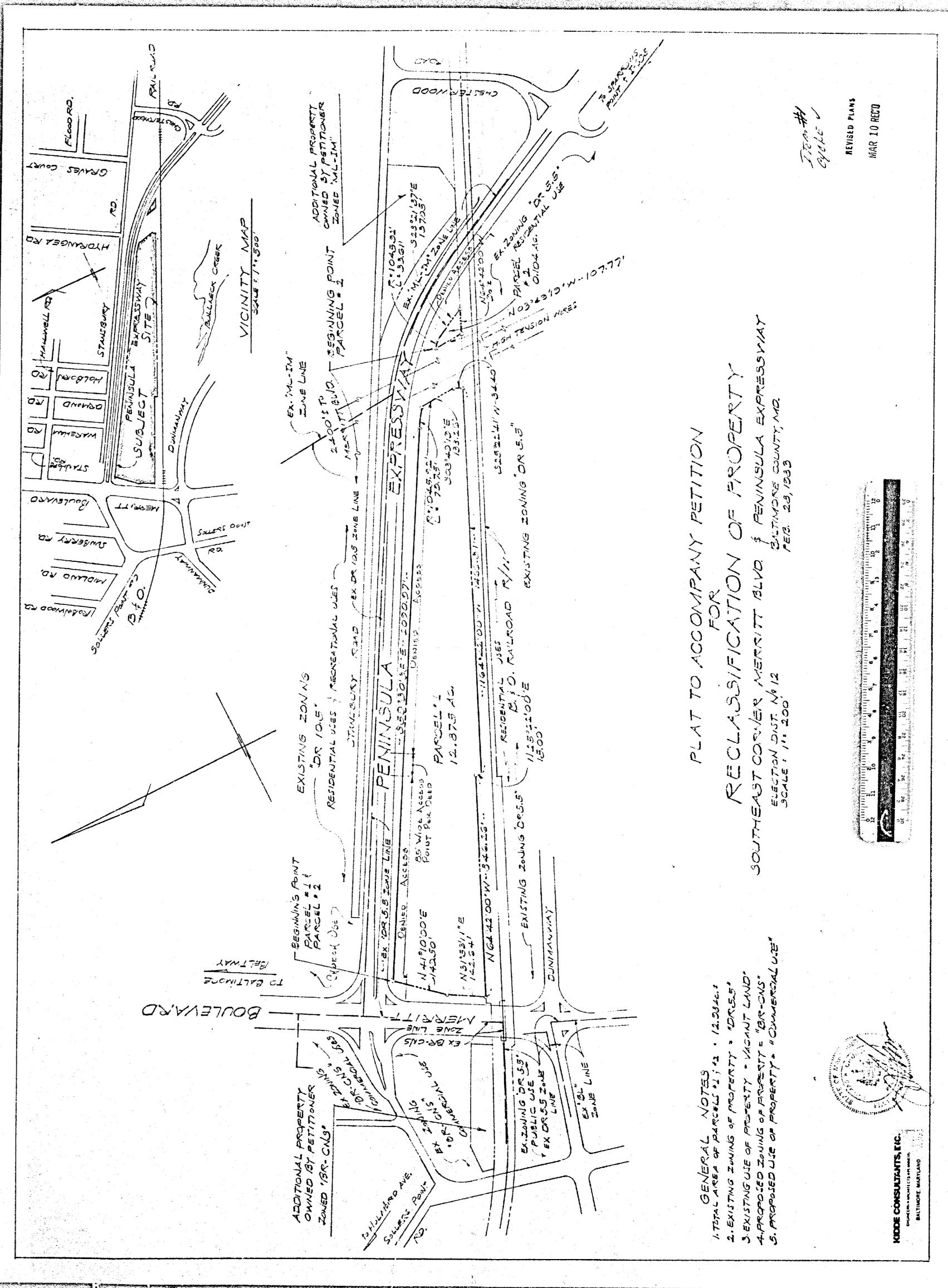
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